

FUSIONISTS TO FIGHT ON GAS.

BUT THEY CAN'T AGREE ON A CITY OWNERSHIP PLAN.

They Name a Committee of Four to Tackle That Problem—Republicans Liked to Find a Plank on Gas a Brown-Orange Would Change Transit Board.

The committee appointed by the fusion conference to prepare a platform met last night at the Fifth Avenue Hotel and after the representatives of the four organizations had chewed for about three hours on the drafts presented by the four organizations, it was decided that as there was such wide differences of opinion the simple way would be to refer the whole thing to a committee of one representative from the Republican organization, the Citizens' Union, the German-American League and the Municipal Ownership League, and which should draw up a platform upon which all could agree.

Municipal ownership and the gas question are the two principal issues which are to be raised by the fusionists. At last night's meeting the conference agreed upon the gas issue, but there was a long discussion as to the other. The representatives of Mr. Hearst's Municipal Ownership League advocated a plank which would mean practically the confiscation of every franchise which has been granted by the city to corporations.

Then William Halpin, for the Republican organization, F. C. Huntington, for the Citizens' Union, submitted their ideas as to the municipal ownership plank. Mr. Halpin said that the Republicans were not in favor of interfering with existing franchises, but that he and the heads of the Republican party, for whom he spoke, would consent to a platform which would call for the operation and taking over by the municipality of franchises which had expired or which were expiring. Mr. Huntington took a somewhat similar position.

This conservative stand did not please the Municipal Ownership League men. Their demand was for reversion, and when after a long session it was made apparent that no agreement could be reached on this plank it was decided to refer the controversy to the committee of four.

The members selected for this committee were William Halpin for the Republicans; Charles T. Hartshorn, German-American League; F. C. Huntington, Citizens' Union, and F. E. Shober, Municipal Ownership League. Instructions were given to the committee to prepare a Municipal Ownership platform upon which all the four parties could unite.

One plank upon which the conferees did agree was that the provisions of the Elsterg bill, which calls for the separation of the city of future subway contracts of construction and operation bid should go into the platform.

It was also determined to demand that the self-perpetuating authority of the Rapid Transit Commission should be done away with. A resolution was adopted to the effect that the commission should be subject to the action of the city council and making such changes in the Rapid Transit act as would compel the retirement of a certain number of commissioners each year by rotation, and giving to the Mayor the appointment of successors.

The effect of the change would be to give to the party in power the control of the commission. To bring this about it was decided that there should be no immediate interference with the composition of the commission, but there should be an increase in the number of the members of the board.

In the course of a discussion on the general features of the platform a cheerful understanding was reached by the members of the committee to the effect that the committee should go to any extreme it wished in framing up paragraphs criticizing Mayor McCellan and his administration. The sub-committee left the meeting with the understanding that they were to whip it up good and hard against McCellan and let that go hang.

A copy of Judge Seabury's letter to Max F. Lipson, consenting to be fusion candidate for Mayor, was obtained last night. Apparently there is no reason, judging from its contents, why William Halpin begged that it should not be made public at the meeting on Monday night of the nominating committee. The letter is a mere repetition of all that the Municipal Ownership League heads have been shouting since they were invited to join the fusion movement.

The decision of Bouquet to Halpin. Mr. Odell's representative, to make gas an issue in the campaign was received with a grin. It was recalled that it was Senator Frederick C. Stevens, head of gas investigator, who gave Mr. Halpin the name of Bouquet. The gas issue, it was said, will bring out all sorts of fun politically.

It was Mr. Odell, Republicans recalled last night, who as Governor of the State urged the passage of the Brown bill. It was Governor Odell's Republican Senate and Gov. Odell's Republican Assembly which passed by large majorities the Remond bill, which had no more to do with the price of gas for New York city than last year's straw hat.

Republicans and Democrats of renown have declared over and over again that the Remond bill merely permitted title to real estate owned by the gas companies, and that it was a square measure. The bill came down to Mayor McCellan and after submitting it to disinterested expert legal authorities, men who had no interest remote or direct in the gas question, McCellan signed the bill.

Instantly ex-Gov. Odell changed front, and the word went out from him that Intemuch as McCellan had signed the Remond bill "McCellan would now be put in a hole."

Ex-Gov. Odell, in adopting that line of conduct, the tactics of politicians fifty years ago, seemed to forget that all—Republicans and Democrats, mugwumps and all hands—were fully aware that he, as Governor of the State, favored the Remond bill and compelled its passage at the hands of an Odell Senate and Odell Assembly.

Concerning the failure of the Republican Senate last winter to pass the 80 cent gas law recommended by the Stevens investigating committee, Republicans and Democrats recalled last night, that Mayor McCellan sent the following telegram to the Tammany Senators:

"I believe the interests of the people of the city of New York require the passage of the bill for cheaper gas and electric light, and I most earnestly urge you to support them."

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of fun in the gas issue went on to recall that the following thirteen Republican Senators voted with the five Tammany Senators against the cheaper gas rate recommended by the investigating committee headed by Senator Stevens:

Henry S. Ambler, Chatham, Columbia county; Walter L. Brown, Oneonta, Otsego county; Owen Cassidy, Watkins, Schuylar county; George H. Cobb, Watertown, Jefferson county; Henry J. Coggeshall, Waterbury, Oneida county; George Allen Davis, Louis, Fulton county; Frank J. Gander, Brooklyn, Kings county; Harvey D. Hinnman, Binghamton, Broome county; Irving L'Hommedieu, Medina, Orleans county; James B. McEwan, Albany, Albany county; Spencer G. Prime, Upper Jay, Essex county; and Benjamin Martin Wilcox, Auburn, Cayuga county.

There were further grins by even the Republicans at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last night at the handiwork of Mr. Odell and Bouquet Billy Halpin in attempting to make gas an issue in the campaign, when these facts were brought to light.

The Republicans owned the Legislature. They could pass any measure they desired without the assistance of any Democrats.

They could pass any measure they desired in spite of the opposition of all the Democrats.

The Republicans passed their State Gas Commission bill and wouldn't pass the 80 cent gas bill recommended by the Stevens committee. The State Senate at Albany is composed of thirty-six Republicans and fourteen Democrats, so that if all the Democrats had voted against the Stevens 80 cent gas bill the Republicans could have passed it easily had they so desired.

Especially it was considered pertinent last night to call attention to the fact that the 80 cent gas bill recommended by the Stevens committee was made the subject of caucus action by the Republican Senators at Albany.

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Five Tammany Senators, Fitzgerald, May, Hawkins, Martin and Lorrain, refused to respect the views expressed in the telegram. On the other hand, Charles F. Tracy, Tammany leader in the Senate, and Frank J. Gander, all Tammany Senators, voted for the 80 cent gas rate to New York city consumers.

Those who said that there would be plenty

UNLOADED ON NEW YORK LIFE

Continued from First Page.

back in 1901 and there was absolutely no connection between the two transactions. In reply to further questions Mr. Randolph said that when the New York Life relieved the trust company of its New Orleans securities and the loan on the syndicate agreement it expected that the other interest in the trust company would join with the New York Life in relieving the company. At first, Mr. Randolph testified, the New York Life "contested" the point that they were the proper ones to take the loan, but the trust company "prevailed in the end and we did it."

Q. So you put into the New York Security and Trust Company at that time \$3,775,000? A. We got a paid pro rata subscription.

Q. You put in that amount? A. Yes.

Mr. Randolph went on to say that the New York Life was not a participant in the syndicate; that they merely loaned on the participation. Mr. Hughes wanted to know what the company paid \$2,500,000 for, and Mr. Randolph replied for the participation in the amount of \$3,885,000. He contended that the purchase of the syndicate participation from the New York Security and Trust Company did not involve the New York Life in the syndicate.

The intimations which the New York Life had when it invested in the New Orleans holdings that other persons interested in the trust company would join the New York Life never materialized. Mr. Randolph would not say who those persons were. He gave it as his opinion that the New York Security and Trust Company were managers of the New Orleans syndicate, but he could not say for certain.

The witness said that when the two holdings were taken in by the New York Life bonds were entered at first in the bond account.

Referring to the minutes of the finance committee's meeting, Mr. Randolph said that the resolution passed May 12, 1902, authorizing the chairman of the committee to accept, in his discretion, \$1,000,000 or \$2,000,000 of the New Orleans bonds, was not a resolution of the committee, the witness testified, did not at that early date accept any of the bonds. He could not tell the reason why. As to the other party, who he said had joined with the New York Life in the investment Mr. Randolph, in response to further questions, said that he must defer to answer. He answered, "The information confidential, he said, because their participation never materialized."

THE SALE UNLOADING.

The witness testified that the New York Life started in to dispose of its holdings in the New Orleans syndicate in November, 1904. Of the bonds \$1,250,000 were sold at 75; \$200,000 at 80 and \$50,000 at 80.75. On the \$1,250,000 sale the company agreed with the purchaser to protect the syndicate in consideration of a division of the resulting profits on the securities.

Mr. Randolph said the company was to get four-fifths of the syndicate profits accruing in the future. The company, he testified, received a check for \$74,000.55 on this account. At the end of 1904 the company had sold the syndicate participation. After it was removed from the bond account it was carried on the company's books in the temporary loan account. Mr. Randolph said that the transaction, the witness said, was \$320,000, which was charged to the profit and loss account.

In closing out the syndicate participation the purchaser of the obligation was protected against any loss by the New York Life.

Mr. Randolph said he wasn't sure a receiver had ever been appointed for the New Orleans company, but he knew that there was a reorganization. Mr. Randolph said that the reorganization was under contemplation when the New York Life relieved the trust company of its holdings.

"Not at all," replied the witness. "We had the most glowing assurances. We had the president of the road brought in, standing and important in that community, and they gave us every assurance of the great value of the road."

COMMITTEE WANTED NAMES.

When the witness finished testifying in regard to the New York Life's transactions in New Orleans Railway holdings, it was long past the hour for adjourning, but Assemblyman James T. Rogers, who had taken the chair in place of Senator Armstrong, said that several members of the committee were not satisfied with the reason which the witness had assigned for the committee in regard to the persons whom the New York Life expected to participate with in taking the trust company's holdings.

Mr. Randolph replied again that he felt this was a confidential matter and did not want to answer the question before the committee. The New York Life, he said, was not desirous of taking hold of the New Orleans securities and the syndicate parties said but "there is no" there was no indication of bad faith against those who failed to come in.

"They simply preferred," said Mr. Randolph, "that we should have it all."

Acting Chairman Rogers wanted to know if there wasn't some legal or moral foundation for the understanding that others had taken. Mr. Randolph said there was only the expectation that arises among people who are talking together about doing something. There was nothing wrong about it. He was merely expressing an expectation on the part of the New York Life. The witness admitted that because the expectation was founded in fact the funds of the company were taken up to a larger extent than would have been the case in the first instance.

The parties, Mr. Randolph thought, considered that the New York Life had made a large sum of money out of its interest in the trust company stock and that the insurance company ought to take up the securities.

"For my part," said Acting Chairman Rogers, "I want to say that I am not at all sure that I am not in the view of the declared purpose of the New York Life Insurance Company, expressed in various documents and letters, that he declared, that it was prepared to make and would make before this committee the fullest disclosures of its affairs."

Mr. Randolph said that he would be glad to tell in confidence any member of the committee who the persons were who were to have joined in the deal.

AS TO POOLING THE STATE EXAMINERS.

Assemblyman Rogers then turned to the matter of the sale of International Navigation syndicate bonds by the New York Life on the day before its annual report was due and said:

"I want to ask whether it is a common practice for your company to sell securities just prior to making your annual reports, which are supposed to show the true condition of your company and to buy them back immediately afterward?"

Mr. Randolph said he didn't remember any other time when it had happened. He said he desired to have everything connected with its management laid before the committee and that that had been the purpose of the company's officers in putting before the committee the fullest information before Mr. Hughes.

Mr. Randolph explained that the company had expected to get a participation of only \$2,500,000 in the International Navigation syndicate, but that the syndicate managers notified them after the fact that they were to get an additional \$600,000. It was the company's intention from the first, he said, to dispose of this \$600,000 block, for it felt that it had all the money to carry in the original subscription.

Assemblyman Rogers suggested that the annual report of 1904 would have been more accurate and more truthfully representative of the facts if that sale of December 31 and repurchase of January 2 "had" been made.

Mr. Randolph replied, "It was a sale and it was a purchase. There is no doubt whatever. The purchase was made by the company and the check went into our account. At the time our statement was made it certainly had passed out of our account and had become a cash asset. I am not

A MATTER OF HEALTH



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disguising for a moment what the purpose of this sale was, that the purpose was to avoid altering our books an asset which we carried in our books and believed to be \$3,200,000. We had stated that in a variety of ways and for the purpose of making that statement we determined to sell the securities and this was done with the idea of keeping that statement good."

The witness said it was well understood that the New York Life had sold the bonds at the first of the year if they were not sold.

"The whole result, as I and my associates gathered in the minds of Mr. Rogers, is that the transaction of December 31 and the repurchase on January 2 resulted in showing your annual report a loss of the year with \$300,000 more actual cash assets than really, by a strict interpretation of the facts, were in the treasury?"

"Real cash, it was," replied the witness. "It was a couple of days," added Mr. Rogers.

"It was real cash," was the witness's final reply.

He brought out in the course of the testimony that the New York Life did not actually dispose of these \$300,000 of International Navigation bonds until December 31, 1904. They were sold to J. S. Morgan & Co. of London for \$270,000, and the loss of \$30,000 was charged to the profit and loss account in the company's books.

The company furnished to the investigating committee in regard to its syndicate operation a set forth that the company had not sold the syndicate agreement and the syndicate transactions had not been closed.

"EXCISE."

Counsel for the investigating committee called Mr. Randolph's attention to an entry on the books showing the sale of securities by the New York Life to "N.Y.C.," Mr. Randolph said that this was a regular "beneficial" organization independent altogether from the New York Life. The name, he said, was composed of the initials of the New York Life.

The witness could not, however, say any more about the "N.Y.C." and told Mr. Hughes that he would have to call upon the men who were interested in it.

Counsel for the investigating committee brought out the fact that several of the stocks which Mr. Randolph called on Friday "non-existent" stock were recorded on cards in the financial office in the Hauppauge Bank Building and that the profits in the sale of these stocks were entered in the books of the company.

Mr. Hughes questioned the witness in regard to the New York Life's purchase of \$100,000 of Chicago and Alton bonds at 100. Later the company sold \$500,000 of the bonds at the price had paid for them. These were sold, it was said, to Goldman & Sachs and associates, who were connected with the New York Life in acquiring the \$100,000 worth of the bonds on a joint account. The New York Life, it was shown, practically sold them to Goldman & Sachs and then sold them to the bank and then the savings bank basis. The bonds never reached the savings bank basis. They are worth now about 85.

DEMY'S LOANS ALL RIGHT.

Mr. Randolph, at the morning session, asked permission to say a word about his testimony at last Friday's hearing. This testimony, he said, was not given in a hostile spirit, but was a statement of the things which he had spoken of had been misconstrued. He wanted to understand that the finance committee had given him thorough and cordial approval to everything that had been done, and that he was in no sense personally responsible for the transaction.

He said that other members of the finance committee besides himself regarded the practice of giving dummy loans as unfavorable. He was not saying anything wrong in it. The idea, he said, was that the loans were made on value, not on names.

He was, he said, sorry that the name of George Marshall had been brought into the transactions, for he is an excellent man, and his color, Mr. Randolph said, was nothing against him. Mr. Randolph said further that he had nothing to explain, nothing to defend, and that he stood for what had been done, not only with the approval of his own conscience but also with the full accord of his associates.

He called attention to the fact that the members of the finance committee had, in the course of the transaction, been criticized in the matter. They did, he said, as individuals would have been done under the same circumstances, and that he declared, was the highest possible test. He requested that counsel for the committee in questioning him should allow him to defend himself in his own words upon the minutes of the finance committee.

Mr. Hughes assured the witness that there had been no misapprehension on the part of the committee. Mr. Randolph said he was personally responsible for the transactions.

Mr. Hughes asked the witness to furnish him with the records as found in the minutes of the finance committee meetings in regard to the sale of \$1,535,000 par value of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul preferred stock. This was one of the blocks of stocks transferred by the New York Life to the New York Security and Trust Company in order to conceal the transaction.

Mr. Randolph showed from the minutes that what he called the pro forma sale of the stock to the trust company had been authorized by the committee.

He said that the disposal of the New York Life's holdings in the New York Security and Trust Company had been left largely to the discretion of George W. Perkins. In Mr. Randolph's opinion, Mr. Perkins had accomplished the sale of the bonds in a masterly fashion. Mr. Randolph said that there was no resolution on the minutes of the finance committee's meetings made that they were to get an additional \$600,000. It was the company's intention from the first, he said, to dispose of this \$600,000 block, for it felt that it had all the money to carry in the original subscription.

The entry made in the books of the New York Life Company in regard to the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul stock showed that that stock had been sold, did it not? asked counsel for the committee.

"It showed that the stock had been closed out," said Mr. Randolph.

COMMITTEE HAS NO KICK.

Mr. Hughes pursued his inquiry in regard to the entries in the New York Life's books and in a masterly fashion. Mr. Randolph complained that certain facts had been wrong from him regarding these stock transactions at Friday's hearing, whereas the company, as a matter of

fact, furnished the committee with all data in reference to the transactions before the hearings began. Mr. Hughes replied that he thought there was no occasion for remarks that subject and that the committee certainly had no cause to complain of the New York Life's stand in the matter. The committee, he said, was satisfied that the company was doing everything that it could to do the right thing. Then Mr. Hughes expressed the opinion that there was no need of saying anything further on that point.

Mr. Hughes asked again in what book an entry of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul transaction had been made. The witness replied that the transaction had been entered in the company's purchase and sales ledger.

Q. Well, in your ledger does it appear to the name of the New York Security and Trust Company? A. It must be so.

Q. Or to the name of another purchaser? A. No, no other purchaser at all.

Q. What I want to get at is what the entry there is. I want to know if it is entered in your sales ledger that you had sold those stocks? A. Absolutely not.

Q. Without explanation? A. Without explanation.

The witness admitted that the cash received on this transaction, \$1,700,000, was credited to the New York Life in the New York Security and Trust Company books. Mr. Hughes wanted to know whether the witness also entered in the company's bank book relating to that item. The witness said he didn't know as to that.

Q. Well, as a matter of fact, the witness who placed on your credit account of these stocks in December, 1901, were placed in your credit account in the sale of stocks? A. Oh, undoubtedly.

Q. Was there any entry made in your books on January 1, 1902, of any cash received by you or by any one on your behalf against these stocks as collateral? A. Certainly not such an entry would be improper.

Q. The entry of the sale and receipt of the purchase price closed that matter? A. Yes, it would close that matter. I am unable to say if we had entered a loan or an obligation of the company on one side or the other, but I had to enter the sale of these stocks on the other. The whole purpose was to get these securities out of the company's hands. I had no other purpose.

Q. So, as you closed your books on December 31, 1901, the books showed simply the sale of this stock and the receipt of the purchase price? A. That is correct.

Q. And the cash balance that you had at the close of the year 1901 included this price? A. Yes, it included it. It was in the respective places to the trust company and the bank by the respective amounts.

NO OBLIGATION—REALLY.

The witness said that on the other side of the New York Life's accounts there were no entries of any liabilities or obligations to the New York Security and Trust Company with respect to the money, because, he said, there really were no obligations. The securities were passed out and never came back to the New York Life. The stocks were sold and liquidated themselves.

Q. That was the state of the case when you made your report at the end of the year? A. That was the state of the case.

Q. The cash balance that you then reported included the proceeds of this stock? A. As a matter of course.

And there was no liability on the other side of the account against that? A. No liability existed, so there was none stated.

Mr. Randolph said that there had never been any entry in the New York Life's books relative to the notes drawn by the company's employees to the trust company. The witness said that, while he knew of no actual memoranda regarding the pro forma sales, he thought that the New York Life company must have kept something of the sort in regard to the securities.

examining committee of the board of trustees, he said, would have to have some of the memoranda to be able to locate the securities when they made their examination once a month.

When the actual sale of the Chicago, Milwaukee and Northwestern stock was made, Mr. Randolph said, the witness said, was made in the books in regard to the disposition of the stock. It was the same, also, he said, in regard to the other stock. The New York Life disposed of in this way. If any profit was made when the stocks were actually closed out the profit was entered on the company's profit and loss account, and if any loss resulted a corresponding entry was made in the same account.

Other witnesses who testified yesterday, were Augustus G. Paine, president of the New York and Pennsylvania Company, and a trustee of the New York Life. There were also Kinsley, vice-president of the New York Life, and Cornelius C. White, deputy auditor of the trust company. The hearing will be resumed at 10:30 o'clock this morning.

COUPLING PIN FELL ON HIM.

William Spieker Fatally Injured as He Walked Under Elevated Road.

While walking under the elevated structure at Third Avenue and 177th street yesterday afternoon William Spieker, 85 years old, who lives at 605 East 134th street, was hit on the head by a falling coupling pin. A workman on the tracks above was carrying more of them than he could handle.

Mr. Spieker was carried to the Harlem Hospital, where he died at 6 o'clock. He was one of the best residents of the Bronx. He retired from business twenty years ago and is said to have been worth a quarter of a million. He leaves one daughter, Mrs. Thomas Bright.

BIG TIM TO MAKE A SPEECH.

"And Other Prominent Orators" Will Help Harbinger Out.

The Sullivan are helping Julius Harbinger in his fight to retain the Tammany leadership of the Tenth Assembly district. Big Tim Sullivan, who can rarely be prevailed upon to speak at a public meeting has promised to say a few words at a gathering of Harbinger's Tammany Club, on Friday evening, at 42 Second Avenue. Little Tim Sullivan, Congressman Billy Sulzer and other prominent orators are also likely to make speeches.

McCARREN SCORES AGAIN.

Henry Dammeyer Retires From a Primary Fight in the Senator's Interest.

Henry Dammeyer, who has been engaged in a triangular fight for the Democratic leadership in the Twentieth Assembly district, Brooklyn, announced yesterday that he was withdrawing from the race and devote his efforts to the maintenance of the control of Senator P. H. McCarron over the county organization.

The primary contest will now be waged by Dennis Winter, who leads the McCarron forces, and Otto Wicke, chief of the disaffected. Winter and Wicke are confident of retaining their supremacy.

May Be Three Corned Fight in Bayonne.

N. J.

Republicans and Democrats of Bayonne, N. J., held primaries last night. The Republican delegates elected to the city convention will nominate Pierre P. Garven for Mayor and the Democrats will name Councilman Matthew T. Cronin for Mayor and Hyman Lazarus for Recorder. The Republican candidate for Recorder has not been selected. There is a likelihood that Mayor Thomas Brady, who declined the nomination because it is said that there were too many strings to it, may be an independent candidate, petitions now being in circulation.

Normal